

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An image pickup apparatus, an external device and an image pickup method enabling provision of an open area in an image memory by performing automatic transfer operation of a digital image signal without requiring a user to cancel a photography preparation instruction or a picture taking instruction are provided. A digital camera or the image pickup apparatus is arranged to transfer to a computer a digital image signal accumulated in a RAM when the digital camera is in a photography preparation state or in a photography execution state, when an image already saved to a storage medium exists in the RAM, and when the RAM is full and a new digital image signal cannot be accumulated.

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